

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1-28 are pending in the application. The Examiner additionally stated that claims 1-4, 10-15, 17-19, 22, 23, and 27 are rejected. The Examiner additionally stated that claims 5-9, 16, 20, 21, 24-26 and 28 are objected to. By this amendment, claims 9 and 24 have been cancelled and claims 1, 22, 25 have been amended. Hence, claims 1-8, 10-23, and 25-28 are pending in the application.

Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application, in view of the foregoing amendments.

In the Claims

Applicant traverses the Examiner rejections of claims 1-4, 10-15, 17-19, 22, 23, and 27. However, to place the objected to claims in condition for allowance, Applicant has amended the rejected claims to incorporate the limitations of allowed subject matter. Applicant intends on filing Continuation and Division applications to pursue the canceled and withdrawn claims as originally presented.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 5-9, 16, 20, 21, 24-26 and 28 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration and indications of allowability of these claims. By this amendment, the allowable limitation of claim 9 has been incorporated into the language of claim 1, and the allowable limitation of claim 24 has been incorporated into the language of claim 22. Claims 9 and 24 have been cancelled and the claim depending from claim 24 has been amended to now depend from claim 22, as appropriate.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the arguments advance above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-8, 10-23, and 25-28 are in condition for allowance.

Applicant earnestly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone if the Examiner has any questions or suggestions concerning this amendment, the application, or allowance of any claims thereof.

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8 that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date of signature shown below.

Respectfully submitted,
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